

Whilst the objects of our association, mainly appertain to agricultural improvement and cultivation, as the basis of all industrial enterprise ; yet it embraces within its scope, the entire domain of productive labor, invention and skill. The development of all our resources—of the field, the orchard, and the garden—the arts whether useful or ornamental—the forests, the mines, or the fisheries—the encouragement of every branch of human industry, calculated to enhance the wealth and character of the State, and to add to the means of human comfort and happiness—the development of the highest efforts of the human mind in economizing, and giving still greater efficiency to labor—all these grand and noble aims come within the province of our organization. One of the great agents in solving the industrial problem of the age, is the application of steam to the mechanic arts, and to the removal of the barriers to the progress of commerce. The mighty revolution effected by the use of steam, for a time, alarmed political economists with the fear, that such an augmentation of the powers of labor, would leave millions unemployed, or by rendering them unable to compete with that skill which employed the elements, instead of human hands, leave them to starve.—But experience has proven the groundlessness of these apprehensions. Time has demonstrated, that the greater the improvements in labor-saving machinery, the more the forces of nature are rendered subservient to human control ; the more extended are the means of human comfort, and the cheaper do they become of acquisition. So vast is the great store-house of nature's productions and powers ; so surely does one great discovery in science or art pioneer the way for another ; that the supply of one want creates the demand for another—the economizing of labor in one department of industry, opens still wider fields for its employment in others. The invention of the cotton-gin and the power-loom have felled millions of acres of forest, and covered mountain-sides with flocks of sheep ; and thus given